

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 661

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Lawrence Dyer on the celebration of his 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Dyer celebrated his 100th birthday on December 20, 2017, a milestone that was commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the son of Sidney Mitchell Dyer and Emily Jane Parker, Mr. Dyer was born and raised on Parker Branch in Troup County, and he attended school at Beech Grove; and

WHEREAS, with an unwavering sense of duty and patriotism, Lawrence Dyer began service in the United States Army in 1941 with the 7th Cavalry Division, fighting in the South Pacific during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Dyer was honorably discharged on September 29, 1945, at Fort McPherson, Georgia; he was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the MM Rifle Badge, the MM Pistol on Horseback Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the Philippines Liberation Ribbon with two Bronze Service Stars, the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, the World War II Lapel Button, and the World War II Victory Ribbon for his tour of duty; and

WHEREAS, for many years after his military service, Mr. Dyer served with acumen and alacrity as a farmer and a carpenter, in which positions he earned the respect of his peers for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Dyer is a longtime resident and highly respected member of the Macon County community, having enriched and enlightened the lives of all he has encountered; and

WHEREAS, a man of faith, Mr. Dyer previously served as a Sunday School teacher and as a church clerk for twenty-six years; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Dyer enjoyed the love and companionship of his first wife, the late Vergie Freeman, and later his second wife, the late Minnie Gammons; he is the proud father of eight children, sixteen grandchildren, twenty-four great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as Mr. Dyer begins his eleventh decade, he is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events, as his health permits; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Lawrence Dyer on the celebration of his 100th birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.